

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A record carrier comprising a plurality of areas for storing disc management information and a designation area, said designation area including a predefined number of clusters, said predefined number being associated with a number of said plurality of areas, wherein at least one of said clusters is associated with a corresponding one of the plurality of areas for storing disc management information, wherein signals in the designation area indicate which corresponding one of said plurality of areas for storing disc management information is last filled~~is in use~~.
2. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein the designation area is located inside one of said plurality of areas for storing disc management information.
3. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein the designation area is located adjacent to one of said plurality of areas for storing disc management information.
4. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1 wherein the signals comprise marks indicating a first status of a corresponding one of the plurality of areas for storing disc management information and no marks indicating a second status of a corresponding one of the plurality of areas for storing disc management information.
5. (Currently amended) The record carrier according to claim 4, wherein the first status indicates that a corresponding area of said plurality of areas for storing

disc management information has been filled ~~is in-use~~, and the second status indicates that the corresponding area of said plurality of areas for storing disc management information is not filled ~~in-use~~.

6. (Currently amended) A method for recording information on a record carrier, said record carrier comprising plurality of areas for storing disc management information and a designation area including a predefined number of clusters, said predefined number of clusters being associated with a number of said plurality of areas, at least one of said clusters being associated with a corresponding one of the plurality of areas for storing disc management information wherein signals in the clusters indicate which of said plurality of areas for storing disc management information have been filled ~~is in-use~~, the method comprising the steps of:

accessing the designation area comprising signals indicating which of ~~said~~ aid plurality of areas for storing disc management information that have been filled ~~is in-use~~,

checking each of said signals in said designation area;

determining from said signals the last area for storing disc management information that has been filled ~~which is in-use~~, and

retrieving the disc management information contained within said determined last area for storing disc management information.

7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of accessing the designation area comprising signals indicating which of said plurality of areas for storing disc management information have been filled ~~is in-use~~ consists of referencing a predefined location on the record carrier.

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of retrieving the disc management information comprises retrieving pointer

information from a predefined location in the determined last area for storing disc management information that has been filled i in-use, and subsequently retrieving the disc management information by using said pointer information.

9. (cancel)

10. (Currently amended) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein said signals in said clusters of said designation area explicitly identify which of ~~[[of]]~~ said plurality of areas is in use.

11. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein said signals in said cluster of said designation area implicitly identify which of said plurality of areas is in use.

12. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein a first one of said plurality of areas is contained at a known region of said record carrier.

13. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein said designation area is contained at a known region of said record carrier.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said signals in said clusters of said designation area explicitly identify which of said plurality of areas is in use.

15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein said signals in said clusters ~~[[fo]]~~ of said other area implicitly identify which of said plurality of areas is in use.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein a first one of said plurality of areas is contained at a known region of said record carrier.

17. (Currently amended) A record carrier comprising at least one layer, each of said at least one layer comprising:

a plurality of areas of a known dimension for storing disc management information and a designation area, said designation area including a predefined number of clusters, said predefined number of clusters being associated with a number of said plurality of areas, at least one cluster being associated with a corresponding one of the plurality of areas for storing disc management information, wherein signals in the designation area indicate which of said plurality of areas have been filled ~~is in use~~.

18. (Currently amended) The record carrier according to claim 17, wherein said signals in said clusters in said designation area explicitly identify which of said plurality of areas have been filled ~~is in use~~.

19. (Currently amended) The record carrier according to claim 17, wherein said signals in said clusters in said other area implicitly identify which of said plurality of areas have been filled ~~is in use~~.

20. (Previously presented) The record carrier of claim 1, wherein the predefined number of clusters equals the number of said plurality of areas.

21. (Previously presented) The record carrier of claim 1, wherein the predefined number of clusters equals one less than the number of said plurality of areas.